

May 26, 1988

TO: File

FROM: Frank Filas, Reclamation Engineer

RE: Site Inspection, M/049/009 - Trixie/Burgin/Apex, EXP/049/013 -
Sunshine Exploration, EXP/049/016 - Chief Consolidated, Utah County,
Utah

On May 17, 1988, Holland Shepherd and I toured the above referenced areas with Glenn Mellor of Sunshine Mining Company. Sunshine currently is mining ore out of the Trixie Shaft and employs 32 people. The ore is crushed and hauled by McFarland and Hullinger to the Kennecott Smelter. The Trixie Shaft and Waste Dump cover approximately three to four acres. The same is true of the Apex Shaft area which is currently idle.

The main offices are located at the Burgin Mill and shaft area. The mill is relatively old and has been run only briefly by Sunshine Mining in 1985 when Kennecott shut down. The mill was forced to shut down when it ran out of approved tailings storage area. The company had used the old water discharge ponds located south of the Burgin No. 1 Shaft for tailings disposal. These ponds were partially lined with a caliche from the discharge water and could only be used for tailings disposal in those areas which had the caliche lining.

Sunshine is currently evaluating the possibility of mine expansion and the reopening of the mill. Before such expansion can be initiated, Sunshine will have to obtain approval from the Bureau of Water Pollution Control for a new set of tailings ponds and for mine water discharge. The tailings ponds and discharge areas have been previously approved by the Division. It will be necessary for Sunshine to amend Attachment A of the bonding agreement with the Division to include the ponds used in 1985 plus the new proposed ponds. A copy of the forms for revising Attachment A were left with Glenn Mellor.

During our tour of the facilities, we also stopped at the drill sites used by Sunshine in 1984. The two holes which Sunshine deepened in Section 34, T9S, R2W, resulted in very little disturbance. Mr. Mellor said that he would weld a plate over the casing and backfill the old mud pits. The third hole is located in the SW1/4 of Section 3, T10S, R2W, and was not visited. Chief Consolidated is now responsible for this hole (see EXP/049/016). Mr. Mellor also indicated that he would check the holes drilled in 1981 in the vicinity of the proposed Hunter Shaft to see if they have been properly reclaimed.

clj
cc: L. Braxton
H. Shepherd
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